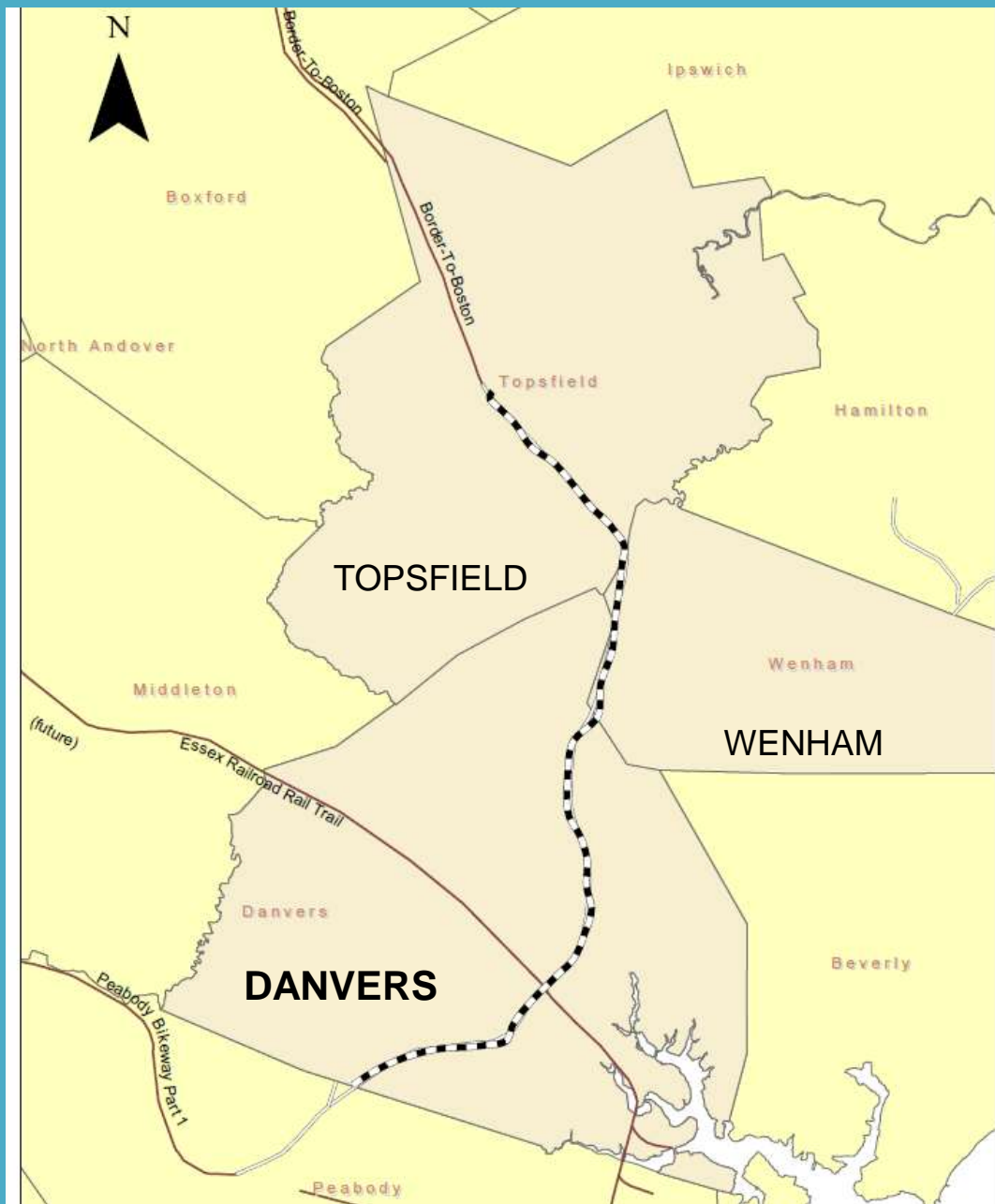


Wetland Permitting for a Rail Trail: **The Danvers Experience**



Kate Day & Charley Lincicum
November 8, 2014
Mass Trails Conference



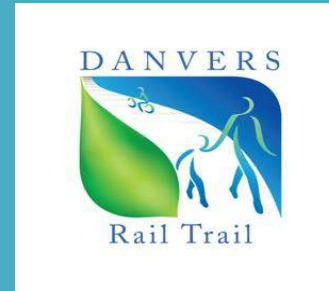
Danvers - Topsfield Connector Border-to-Boston Trail

7.6 miles from
Peabody line to
Topsfield center



BORDER - TO - BOSTON NETWORK

Danvers Rail Trail:



- 4.3 mile corridor
- Part of the Border-to-Boston trail
- Electric Division shares 3.6 miles of ROW
- MBTA 99-year lease signed in 2006
- Rail Trail Advisory Committee Fall 2009
- Scope of Services with Iron Horse signed March 2010
- ConsCom permitting winter/spring 2010, again in spring 2014 for wetlands crossing



TRAIL RULES



Bicyclists yield to pedestrians
Trail users obey all traffic rules
Carry in, carry out
Clean up after pets
Dogs on short leash at all times



No smoking or fires
No alcohol
No motorized vehicles
No trespassing on private property

For Emergency - 911

**Welcome to the
Danvers Rail Trail**







Small ponds & streams adjacent to Rail Trail...



TWO PERMITTING PATHS:

FOR 4.3 MILE TRAIL:



- REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA)



- NEGATIVE DETERMINATION

FOR BRIDGE OVER WETLAND:



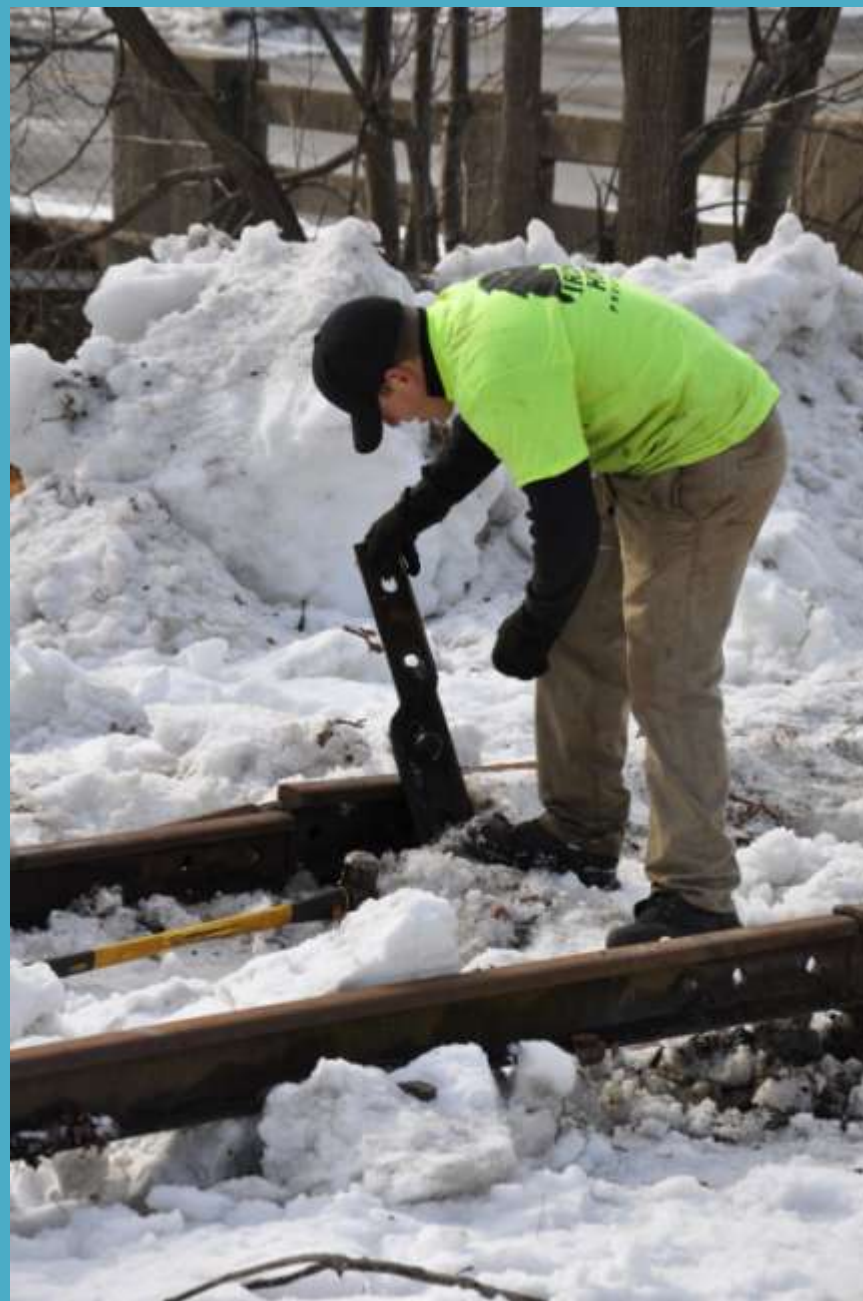
- NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)



- ORDER OF CONDITIONS

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROCESS UNDER RDA





















Photos: Essex National Heritage Commission







Summary of work done under RDA

- Removed 4.3 miles of rails and ties
- Installed gravel base and compacted stone dust surface
- Because trail followed existing rail bed, work was easily confined to 10' wide corridor

BRIDGE OVER WETLAND CONSTRUCTED UNDER ORDER OF CONDITIONS



RAIL TRAIL CORRIDOR POSED SAFETY PROBLEM



**ORIGINAL CORRIDOR THROUGH PARKING LOT, ADJACENT PARK
OFFERED OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE ALTERNATE ROUTE**

CONSTRUCTION PROCESS:



**WORKED CLOSELY
WITH CONSERVATION
STAFF TO MAKE SURE
ALL CONDITIONS
SATISFIED AND BEST
PRACTICES USED AT
ALL TIMES**



**HELICAL PILES USED AS BRIDGE
FOOTINGS, MINIMAL INTRUSION
TO WETLAND AREA DURING
CONSTRUCTION PHASE, A MAJOR
PLUS IN PERMITTING PROCESS**





**FRAMING OVER HELICAL
PILES QUICK AND EASY,
MINIMIZING TIME AND
IMPACT ON WETLAND
CROSSING**

**TREX DECKING USED FOR
MAXIMUM DURABILITY OF
SURFACE, SPACING OF
DECK BOARDS ALLOWS
LIGHT PENETRATION INTO
WETLAND BELOW**





**NOTE NEW GROWTH ADJACENT TO CAT TAILS –
ALLOWING WETLAND VEGETATION TO GROW FURTHER
INTO AREA PREVIOUSLY MOWED BY DPW**



**EAGLE SCOUT
PROJECT ADDED
RAILINGS IN “TRESTLE”
STYLE**

**COMPLETED
BRIDGE SITS 18”
TO 2’ ABOVE
WETLAND**





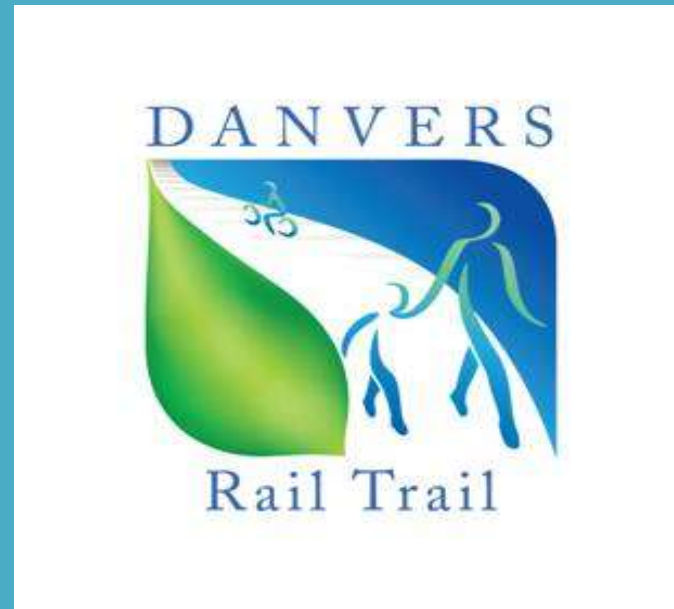
**RE-ROUTING TRAIL HAS REVITALIZED
AN UNDERUTILIZED PARK;
BRIDGE PROVIDES SAFE PASSAGE FOR
TRAIL USERS**

**CONSCOM PERMITTING CLOSE-OUT
SPRING 2015 – SEEK CERTIFICATE OF
COMPLIANCE (COC)**



Summary of work done under Order of Conditions

- 42' bridge over wetland constructed
- Use of helical piles minimized impact, assures longevity of materials
- Expansion of wetlands into previously mowed area twice the square footage of bridge
- New bridge/trail blocks Agway from plowing snow into wetland area
- Safe passage through park for trail users



www.danversrailtrail.org